Chief Information Officer

Transforming the way we manage, share, present and exploit our information is critical to achieving Defence outputs. Ministry of Defence Information Strategy 2011 (MODIS) sets the high-level context for this, a transformation that underpins successful Defence reform and effective and efficient achievement of our objectives.

This tri-fold introduces the seven Information Themes to you which sets the high level activities required to be undertaken by Defence in order to achieve the Defence Information Vision.

I look to all stakeholders and information champions in Defence to help deliver the strategic intent of MODIS 2011.

Defence Information Vision

Agile exploitation of our information capabilities to improve effectiveness and efficiency on operations and in support areas through access to, and sharing of timely, accurate and trusted information.

The four, enduring, key benefits derived from the Defence Information Vision are:

- **Improved Effectiveness** – Our outputs are better when they are enabled by improved information flows;
- **Agility** – Information can be accessed and manipulated whenever and wherever required, subject to affordability and security constraints;
- **Efficiency** – Operations and their supporting processes are more efficient, both because information flows through them better, and Management Information is available to govern them;
- **Compliance** – We comply with our legal and cross-Government obligations, so that we can focus our resources on supporting operations, while maintaining the Departmental reputation.

What is MODIS?

MODIS was produced to bring together our disparate information strategies into one coherent document. To make it easier to digest it is structured around seven Information Themes which are replicated over the page. Each theme contains direction and guidance on how, in practical terms, we intend to achieve the Defence Information Vision and how the department will benefit from this.

Why is it important?

We will not realise improved effectiveness, agility, efficiency and compliance by accident. In MODIS we set out what must be done and by whom, within any affordability and security constraints. It informs those that have influence over information skills, technology and processes so that we are all working towards a common goal: Information Superiority.

So what do I need to do?

You must play your part even if you don’t have a specialised information role. You still need to understand the importance using good behaviours in how you manage and use information. If you have a particular information role then there are specific responsibilities and activities that you will need to carry out. These are laid out at a high level in the full version of MODIS 2011 - so you need to read and understand it!

How can I find out more?

Access to the full document can be found via the following Internet and Intranet links:


Internet: http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/AboutDefence/CorporatePublications/PolicyStrategyandPlanning/ModInformationStrategy/Modis.htm
To achieve success we need informed decision making or Information Superiority. This comes from the ability to provide information in the right way, to the right person, at the right place and at the right time.

Collaboration is key to enabling better decisions. Collaboration means creating, sharing and exploiting information with our allies, industry partners and Other Government Departments. By collaborating with colleagues we will improve awareness and promote efficiency.

We can only collaborate if our information is appropriately protected, secured and safe from malicious acts or misuse.

Collaborating, securing and assuring our information requires that we recognise the value of information and treat it as a collective asset. Timely, relevant, consistent and accurate data are the fundamental attributes of quality information.

To extract the value in our information our staff need the necessary skills and behaviours to manage and exploit it.

An information architecture approach will be used to describe how information flows along and between processes, where it is used and how it is transformed.

This will help determine what information services we need and how they should be connected to deliver better outcomes.

In order for Defence to retain and improve its information advantage we must be innovative in how we use and develop our information systems and processes. Innovation is about using and exploiting existing and new capabilities to deliver more from less.